



## Tanworth-in-Arden C of E Primary School & Nursery

*In God's family, learning, loving, growing to be our very best*

23rd May 2025

Dear Parents,

This week I have heard many times the phrase "this has been the longest shortest half-term". It's hard to believe that we have only been in school for 19 days this half-term as there has been such a lot going on. We have had school trips, two non-school uniform days, Mental Health workshops, two Open the Books, VE Day and of course SATS week! No wonder everyone is ready for a break!

Whilst talking about holidays, today we have 22 children absent from school. While many have reported being off due to sickness, we've also noticed that a few families are enjoying a holiday during term time without completing the absence request form. We understand how tempting it can be to take a break, but we'd like to remind you of our school value of truthfulness and also the correct process of requesting a leave of absence form and submitting before taking the holiday. These can be found on the website and also by contacting the office.

We encourage everyone to be honest about absences and ask that you don't ask your children to lie about why they're not in school. It's important for us to create a culture of openness and integrity in our school community. Because of this, please be aware that we may not authorise all sickness absences if we know that a child is on holiday. We completely recognise the importance of family time, and holidays are key for many families. However, we would like everyone to think about how missing school can affect learning and to consider sticking to our attendance policy. Thank you for your support and understanding. Let's work together to give all our children the best education possible!

Attached to this newsletter is our very first OPAL Newsletter. Each half-term Miss Hodges will be sharing with you all that is OPAL, with updates of the play opportunities on offer, reminders and also wish lists of items you may have not been using or may be throwing away that we could use. A huge THANK YOU to Miss Hodges and Miss Chambers who are our OPAL Leaders and are working tirelessly to ensure that the children have as many different play opportunities as possible. Thank you also to Carsten and Marcus' father, who kindly moved the bath into OPAL so that this can be used as a social area. He has also been disposing of our rubbish, which we are very grateful for.

Don't forget today is the last day to complete the parental survey. Each year we ask parents to complete a Parental Survey to support us knowing what we are doing well and where we need to improve. This year Arden Forest MAT are working together with Edurio (a survey platform) to give parents and carers the opportunity to share their opinions on our school and the MAT. You can find the survey by clicking on this link <https://edurio.com/poll/Ndb59E>. So far we have had 68 responses from 119 families.

Finally, I am sure you all know our school Christian mission statement of:

"In God's family learning, loving, growing to be our very best."

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

You will have seen it on newsletters, on displays around the school and on our logo. I know that I have often found it hard to put into words what 'life in all its fullness' actually means. But this week I received an email from Birmingham Diocese and Sarah Smith who is part of the Birmingham Diocesan Board of Education where she explained what "life in all its fullness" is.

***"Life in all its fullness" serves as the strapline for the national vision for education, and indeed many of our schools have adopted this too. At first glance, we often interpret this as providing a well-rounded educational experience for our children. But upon deeper reflection, I realise that it encompasses much more than that.***

***Life in all its fullness is also about experiencing God in every aspect of life—both in moments of joy and in times of struggle. When we find ourselves in difficult places or are feeling low, we can encounter God, and really experience the fullness of the life he offers. Another perspective, the essence of life in all its fullness—the depth of experiencing God in every season."***

Wishing you a lovely half-term break,

*Mrs Bamford*

Headteacher

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## NURSERY NEWS

This week in Nursery we have had great fun celebrating one of our favourite Julia Donaldson stories 'What the ladybird heard'. The children have enjoyed games of animal bingo, they have been drawing their own maps and we even followed a map taking us around the whole school grounds eventually finding the ladybird. We would like to thank our families for their continued support this half term and wish everyone a lovely break. The Nursery Team.



## FUNDRAISING FOR DEMENTIA

Many of you will know Sarah Cutler, one of our ex-permanent members of staff and now a regular supply teacher at Tanworth. Sarah is currently in training for the Isles of Scilly Marathon in June. Sarah is taking part in this gruelling marathon to raise awareness of early onset dementia. Early onset dementia is when a person develops dementia before the age of 65 and affects over 70,000 people a year in the UK. All money raised will be donated to Dementia UK. If you would like to donate then please follow the JustGiving page link below.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/sarah-cutler-1?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=WA](https://www.justgiving.com/page/sarah-cutler-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA)

I am sure you will all join with me in wishing Sarah all the best.

## PTA NEWS

We hope you all have a great half term! The first week back we have our School disco on Friday 6th June! We look forward to seeing years Reception-Year 5 dancing and enjoying something fun at school!

£3.50 Cash on the door please!

We are also looking for event helpers for a variety of upcoming events! (this can be volunteering from as little as just half an hour of your time- no commitment to meetings etc!) if you can help out please email:

[pta3311@welearn365.com](mailto:pta3311@welearn365.com)

Thank you for your continued support

Georgina

**DISCO**

FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
3.15pm-4.15pm Reception, Year 1, Year 2  
4.30pm-5.30pm Year 3, Year 4, Year 5

**£3.50**  
Crisps & Drink included

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# LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

## UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent [i.e. the parent with whom the child normally resides.](#)

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

**Cont. overleaf**

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## Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
- First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**

### GDPR UPDATE

To comply with the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 and Data Protection expectations, it is vitally important that Tanworth-in-Arden CofE Primary keeps accurate and up to date information relating to every pupil on roll.

The information we are required to record includes:

- Pupil's full legal name (and if appropriate, their preferred name).
- The name, address and contact details of every person known to the school/academy who is a parent\* to the pupil with whom the pupil normally resides (this is the address that has been used to register with their GP).
- The name, address and contact details of any additional parent\*.
- Any other emergency contact details.

In order to gather this information, every year we send out data collection forms. Parents are asked to complete the form with as much information as possible and then return to the school, signed and dated. We would ask that even where there are no amendments to the data collection sheet, parents return the form, signed and dated.

Tanworth-in-Arden CofE Primary requests that if you change your contact number, move home or there are any other circumstances which may impact your child, the school is notified as a priority.

*N.B. \*The Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as a). any natural parent, whether married or not, b). any parent who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act (1989) for a child or young person c). any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.*

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**SUMMER TERM**

Friday 23rd May School and Nursery close for half-term

Tuesday 27th May—Friday 30th May Onside Holiday Club at Tanworth Book here: <https://www.onsidecoaching.co.uk/sign-in>

Monday 2nd June School and Nursery closed Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 3rd June School and Nursery re-open

Friday 6th June PTA Disco Years R-5 (see attached)

Friday 13th June Father's Day Shop

Friday 13th June OPAL Parents session 1.30pm for 1.45pm start

Friday 20th June Sports Day (Picnic lunch then sports pm)

Saturday 21st June Circus

Friday 27th June Year 6 apprentice Sale pm

Friday 27th June Year 6 Leavers Disco 5pm-7pm (details to follow)

Monday 30th June Year 6 production (afternoon)

Tuesday 1st July Year 6 Production (evening)

Wednesday 2nd July Year 6 induction day to secondary/move up morning for Years R-5

Monday 7th July-Friday 11th July Year 6 Residential to Conover

Friday 18th July Year 6 Leavers Service in Church am

Friday 18th July School and Nursery close for summer holiday

Monday 21st July School and Nursery closed teacher training day

**WCC School Term and Holiday Dates - 2024/25**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Aug-24						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Sep-24						
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Oct-24						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Nov-24						
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Dec-24						
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Jan-25						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Feb-25						
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Mar-25						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Apr-25						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
May-25						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Jun-25						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Jul-25						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Aug-25						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Sep-25						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Half Term	Days
1	40
2	35
3	30
4	35
5	19
6	36
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	75
Spring Term	65
Summer Term	55

■ School Holiday  
■ Public Holiday  
■ Teacher Training Day (+3 to be set by school)

■ Secondary School Induction Day



School and Nursery are also closed on: Monday 2nd June 2025 and Monday 21st July 2025 for Teacher Training .

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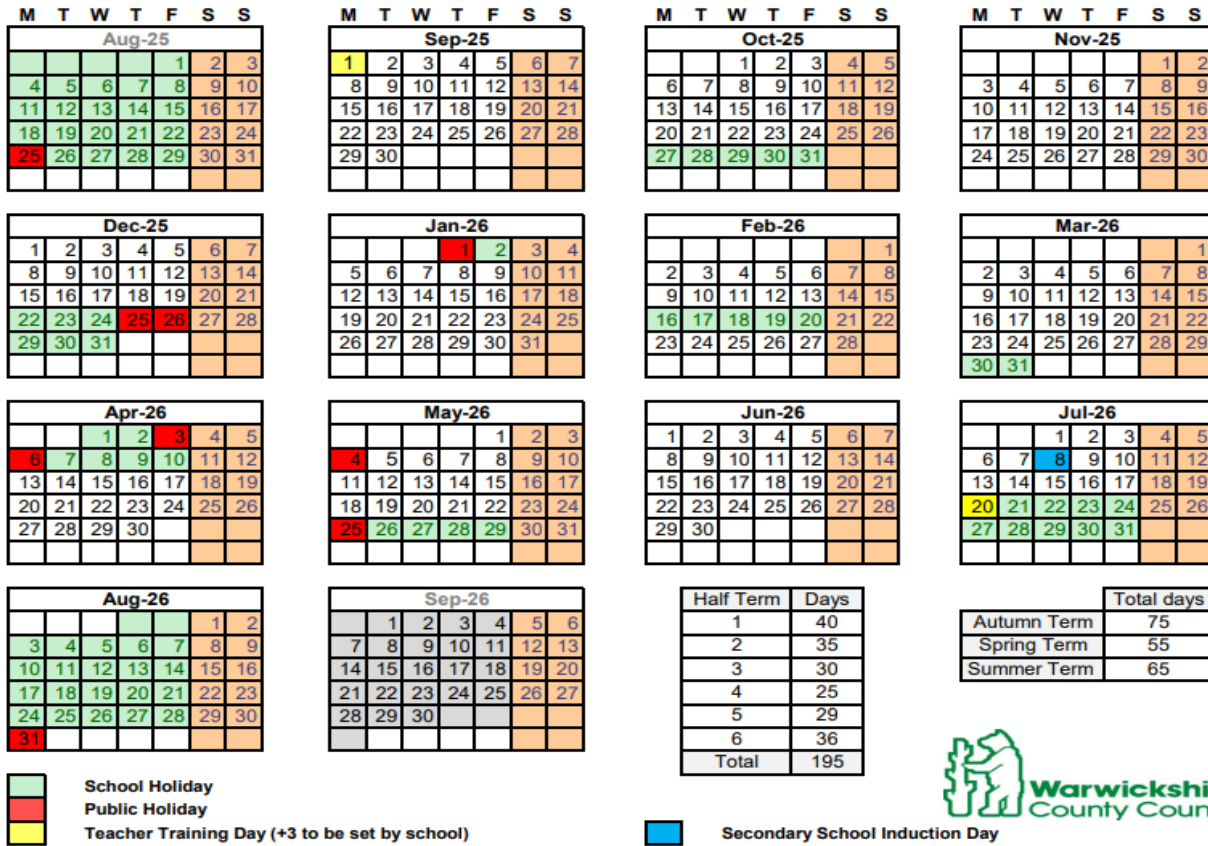
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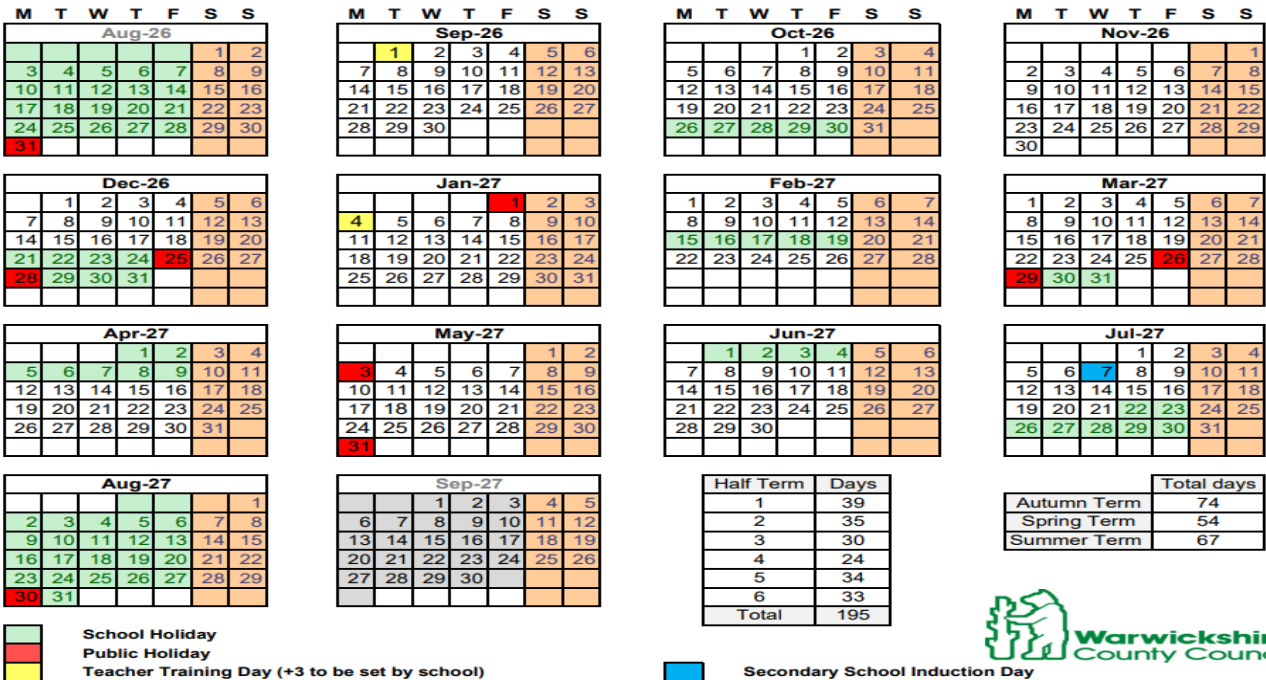


Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2025/26



School and Nursery will be closed on: Friday 24th October, Monday 5th January and Monday 1st June for Teacher Training

Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2026/27



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